

THE SENTINEL

OF KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 45 ISSUE 5 & 6

SERVING SINCE 1966

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009

CAMPUS FLOODED

Classes cancelled due to torrential rain



Students waded through flood waters in front of the KSU Student Center. The campus was officially closed at 1:18 p.m. on Monday, cancelling classes and shutting down offices across KSU. Special to The Sentinel

CAITLYN VAN ORDEN
NEWS EDITOR

Flooding on Monday, Sept. 21 caused campus to close Monday through Wednesday of last week and resulted

in millions of dollars in damages on campus. Kennesaw received 8.91 inches of rainfall on Sept. 21, according to the WeatherBug Live Tracking Station Network.

KSU President Dan Papp appeared on Owl Radio Monday, Sept. 28 and said that while exact figures are still being assessed, damages to campus totaled between \$1 and \$2 million.

KSU began emailing alerts around

noon on Sept. 21, saying that while the campus was still open, driving conditions were unsafe and to not come to campus "unless absolutely necessary." At approximately 12:45 p.m., KSU sent

See **FLOOD**, page 2



Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel



Michael Matuson | The Sentinel

More pictures in this week's special flood section: see pages 12 and 13.

Smoking policy enforced

HEATHER COOK
STAFF WRITER

Campus police have begun reinforcing smoking restrictions.

KSU police began issuing judicial and/or administrative referrals on Sept. 16 to smokers who are in violation of the campus smoking policy, and new "No Smoking" signs have been placed around campus.

Since Jan. 1, 2006 KSU has been a "restricted smoking campus," providing designated areas for smokers and smoke-free air for non-smokers.

"This means that smoking is prohibited in all campus buildings and is permitted only in specially-designated outdoor areas," said Kemper Anderson, assistant director of Public Safety. "Compliance with the rules has never been 100 percent and, in recent months, the number of people not abiding by the rules has increased substantially. Related complaints from students, faculty and staff have resulted in this increased focus

on enforcement."

"Very few people are using the smoking areas, and I'm sure there have been complaints," said Christy Davis, a senior majoring in health and exercise science.

Smoking is prohibited inside all campus buildings and in KSU vehicles. Designated smoking areas are clearly marked with signs.

The designated smoking areas around KSU are located outside of the Convocation Center, Kennesaw Hall, the Burruss Building, the Student Center, Willingham Hall, the Legacy Gazebo, the Wilson and Music Buildings, the Athletic Fields, the KSU Center, Campus Services, Chastain Pointe, the Science and Clendenin buildings and the houses on Frey Lake Road. A map of all these locations can be found at kennesaw.edu/ehs/Attachments/pdf/smoking_map.pdf.

"The number/location of designated smoking areas on campus is determined by the KSU Department of

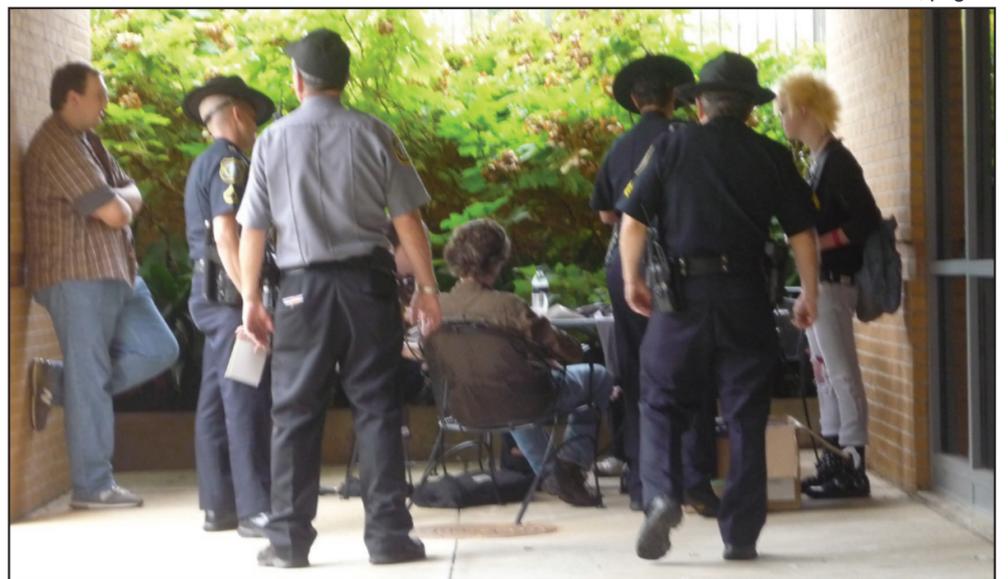
Environmental Health & Safety based upon input from a broad spectrum of stakeholders," said Anderson. "The Department of

Public Safety is tasked with enforcing duly-enacted rules and regulations in this regard."

With the tighter enforcement

of the smoking policy, officers will approach offenders, remind them of the policy, and if they do

See **SMOKING**, page 3



Paul Daly | The Sentinel

Campus police ticket a student for smoking in a no-smoking area outside of the Student Center on Tuesday, Sept. 16. Smoking restrictions are now being enforced across campus, and violators will receive judicial and/or administrative referrals. There are 12 designated smoking areas around KSU.

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www.ksusentinel.com

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Run, Mackenzie, run

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AROUND CAMPUS

What: KAB Comedy Night
When: Tues. Sept. 29, 7 p.m.
Where: University Rooms, Student Center
Details: Featuring Dan Cummins of Last Comic Standing

What: ONE Mile with TOMS
When: Thurs. Oct. 1, 12 - 2 p.m.
Where: Campus Green
Details: To register: kennesaw.edu/onemilewithtoms; for more info: 770-499-3222

What: Hockey vs. East Carolina University
When: Fri. Oct. 2 and Sat. Oct. 3, 10 p.m.
Where: Town Center Ice Forum
Details: \$3 for students

What: Volleyball vs. University of North Florida
When: Fri. Oct. 2, 7 p.m.
Where: Convocation Center

What: Volleyball vs. Jacksonville University
When: Sat. Oct. 3, 3:30 p.m.
Where: Convocation Center

What: Graduate programs open house
When: Sat. Oct. 3, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Where: University Rooms, Student Center

WEATHER



WEDNESDAY
 HIGH 71°
 LOW 47°



THURSDAY
 HIGH 74°
 LOW 53°



FRIDAY
 HIGH 71°
 LOW 59°



SATURDAY
 HIGH 73°
 LOW 53°



SUNDAY
 HIGH 72°
 LOW 53°



MONDAY
 HIGH 71°
 LOW 53°

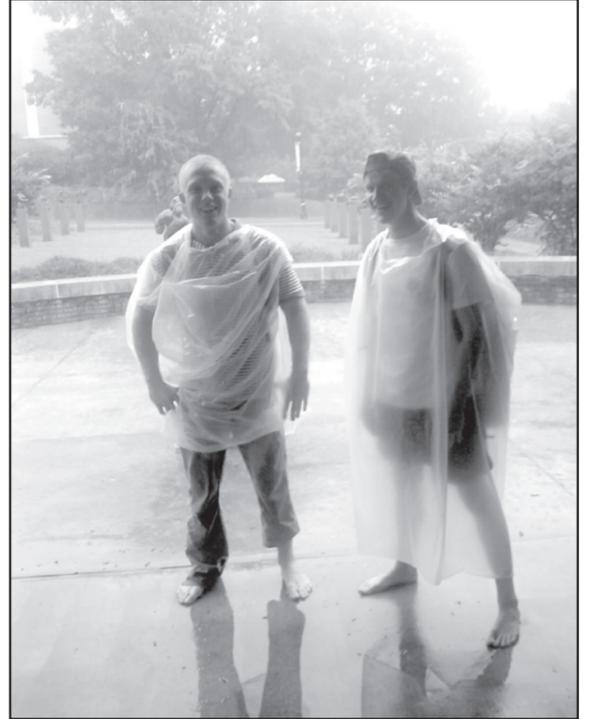


Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel

Students play on the flooded Campus Green on Monday (above). Commuter students experienced difficulty getting on and off campus, and residential students' parking was also affected by the flood, as seen in the parking lot at University Place (bottom left). Students pose in their rain-proof ponchos outside the Student Center (bottom right).



Michael Matuson | The Sentinel



Special to The Sentinel

• **FLOOD** from front page
 out a flash flood warning, but campus remained open. By 1 p.m., campus was closed and classes were cancelled. Students played on the flooded Campus Green, pushed flooded cars and even canoed down Campus Loop Road on Monday. At about 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 21, KSU sent an email saying that campus would

remain closed all day Tuesday, Sept. 22. Papp sent a memorandum at noon on Sept. 22 updating the KSU community on the condition of campus and stated that a decision would be reached by 6 p.m. that day as to whether campus would be open the next day. "Various teams of personnel associated with the Office of the Vice President for Operations worked through the remainder of the day yesterday and throughout the night to assess the extent of the damage to our campus, and it is extensive," said Papp in his email. "The good news is, as far as we are aware, no one in the KSU community was injured."

Papp sent another memorandum at 6 p.m. on Sept. 22 saying that due to "extensive damage," classes were cancelled for students on Wednesday, Sept. 23, with the exception of Continuing Education classes at the KSU Center. "However, all faculty and staff who are scheduled to work on Wednesday, Sept. 23, should report for duties at their normally appointed times," said Papp in his email. Papp's email also said, "We have

been advised by the State Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) that the State is not responsible for weather-related damage to personal vehicles. Thus, KSU students, faculty or staff who experienced damage to their vehicles while parked on campus should pursue the matter with your personal insurers."

Papp sent a final memorandum on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 1 p.m. saying that classes would resume Thursday, Sept. 24 as regularly scheduled.

Papp also said that it would take "several weeks to address all of the damage that the university sustained."

"Governor Sonny Perdue issued an executive order declaring a state of emergency in 17 counties, including Cobb," according to a Cobb County Emergency Management Agency situation report dated Sept. 25.

According to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, Cobb is among the fourteen Georgia counties eligible to receive Public Assistance support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), meaning federal funds will be allocated to recover costs of flood damage.

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Master's in American Studies now offered

HEATHER COOK
STAFF WRITER

The first courses in the new Master of Arts in American Studies (MAST) began this fall. This semester 20 students are enrolled in the courses.

"This first class of students is an exciting group who bring a wonderful array of personal experiences to our program," said LeeAnn Land, interim director of the MAST program. "Some are teachers, others are fresh out of the undergraduate programs and some are seeking new careers or vocational interests. They are already keen observers of American culture."

The MAST program is unique to KSU because it is the only one of its kind in the University System of Georgia.

Sarah Robins, professor of English and English Education, felt KSU needed the MAST program, and on Nov. 10, 2008, the Board of Regents approved the new master's program, allowing students to further their education and interests in a field that is becoming more and more popular.

American Studies deals with American culture analyzed by many different fields, including history, philosophy, English and geography.

"MA in American Studies students are often involved in advocacy in human rights, the social justice movements, LGBT studies, popular culture and movements, such as the environmental movement that is making such an impact on American culture today," said Cherie Miller, MAST program administrator.

The program involves 36 credit hours,

and the courses are spread amongst all types of disciplines and departments. A MAST degree enables graduates to seek employment in many different fields, such as education, human relations, journalism, nonprofit leadership and public relations.

"In order to operate within our borders with a sensitivity for cultures beyond our borders, students need to be informed in a unique way," said Miller. "Kennesaw State has an ongoing initiative for students to 'Go Global.' We offer our students several study abroad trips that will add to their knowledge in the area of research interest. Students in the MA program can contextualize the Holocaust, study the transference of African-American culture to the dances now native to Brazil or visit the Galapagos Islands to learn about bio-piracy and the development of a Latin

American identity."

The deadline for applications for enrollment in the MAST program for Spring 2010 is Nov. 1.

Graduate research assistantships (GRAs) are also available for students enrolled in the MAST program. The assistantships allow tuition remission and a semester stipend of \$2,000.

For more information about the MAST program and GRAs, visit <http://amst.hss.kennesaw.edu> or contact Cherie Miller at 678-797-2504.

"Our program will serve the needs of students seeking a broader understanding of American communities and the Americas in a global framework, skills for using methods of interdisciplinary inquiry and abilities for engaging productively in their civic duties," said Land.

GARRET MOLL
STAFF WRITER

Highway to the Danger Zone

Shortly after midnight on Aug. 24, Sgt. Blalock observed a car exit I-75 onto Chastain road and display indicators that he was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Blalock pulled the car over, and as he exited his vehicle the suspect did a U-turn and started speeding in the other direction, running a red light and turning back onto I-75 north.

Blalock pursued him and called dispatch for backup then alerted Cherokee and Bartow authorities that he was chasing the suspect into their counties.

As the cars passed over lake Alatoona, Blalock noticed the suspect throw small white looking objects out of his window.

As the chase continued on, he noticed an unmarked silver Charger following him at a high rate of speed. After checking with dispatch, he discovered it was an off duty Bartow County police officer.

During the pursuit, speeds reached in excess of 125 miles per hour. Further up the road, a Bartow officer carrying a K9 unit alerted Blalock that they had a visual and were also in pursuit.

As officers attempted to pit the vehicle, the suspect began slamming on his brakes and speeding up again until finally exiting the highway at exit 306.

After driving on the wrong side of the road, the suspect pulled into a Quicktrip gas station and continued driving until his vehicle was off the road and onto a thicket of kudzu, where he proceeded to flee on foot.

The officers lost visuals of the target as he ran through the thicket, and waited until the Bartow K9 unit arrived on the scene, at which point they drew their service weapons and assisted the K9 unit. About 250 yards into the brush they caught up to the suspect and Blalock observed the K9 biting

POLICE BEAT

into the suspect's right and left arms until his handler arrived on the scene to pull him off.

The officers attempted to restrain the suspect, who began fighting back. Blalock was finally able to restrain the suspect and handcuffed him.

As the officers helped the suspect to his feet, they noticed blood coming from the wounds that the K9 had inflicted on him and radioed in for an ambulance.

The suspect refused to submit to field sobriety tests and they found a large quantity of cash, metal knuckles, and several condoms on him. The suspect received stitches from the bite wounds and was taken into custody.

Drunk on Campus

In the early hours of Sept. 9, officers responded to University Village in response to an intoxicated white male.

On the scene they met with a resident assistant who advised them that the male and a female were in a dorm room yelling and screaming. The RA advised that he noticed the female trying to leave but that the male was apparently keeping her in the room.

The officer talked with the female and noticed the smell of an alcoholic beverage on her as well as bloodshot and glassy eyes. The officer asked if she had been drinking and she stated that she had not been. She submitted to an Alco-Sensor test and registered a reading of 0.19 grams, then was later arrested. The male registered a 0.22 and was transported to the

Atlanta Detention Center, where he became combative and abusive to officers. He was placed in isolation.

Sign Missing

At approximately 9:03 a.m. on Sept. 16, an officer was dispatched to the University Village Health Clinic. Upon arrival, they noted that the sign on the south side of the building was missing.

The sign was described as a 3x5 sign that says "KSU VILLAGE CLINIC" and valued at \$300. It appeared the sign had been cut at the cable ties. There were no witnesses.

Stolen Laptop

On Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 12:20 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the student center in reference to a lost laptop. The officer talked to a woman who noted that she noticed the laptop was missing during the security audit. She believed the IT staff had the laptop but was told it was not in their possession. A report was filed.

Slashed Tires

Tuesday, Sept. 3, at approximately 10:34 p.m., an officer responded to the North Parking Deck in reference to damaged property. He met with a man who stated that one of his tires appeared to be slashed. The officer noted that the tire did appear to be slashed but was unsure if the slash was deep enough to cause the flat tire. The man stated he did not know anyone who would have committed the act. A report was filed.

5K race helps students outrun drug addiction

ANDY NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The KSU Collegiate Recovery Center (CRC) hosted its second annual Run for Recovery 5K on Saturday, Sept. 19 in order to raise money for future events and scholarships for people who are part of the CRC's recovery community.

The CRC is part of the Student Success Services Counseling Center and offers a community for students who are in the process of overcoming any addictive disorders.

It offers 12-step meetings, seminar classes and academic advisement for its members. Teresa Johnston, the director of the CRC, said that apart from raising money, their fundraisers are also designed to inform the public about their cause.

"Our main focus is to raise community awareness and to remove the stigma associated with drug addiction," said Johnston.

The race kicked off at 9:30 a.m., and despite the overcast skies and periods of heavy rain 230 individuals participated in the event compared to last year's 204. All proceeds from the race went to the CRC.

The overall winner of the race was Jakob Lov, who crossed the finish

line in 17:30.

"I treated it like a practice," said Lov, an active cross country runner. "It's always good to push up the speed and a race is the best practice. Every time you race, you improve yourself."

The first female finisher was Cobb County resident Kelly Johnson, who finished with a time of 20:40.

"I was running for fun, and I really like the cause," said Johnson, who works at Mizuno. "I think it's cool to let people know there are other options out there if they're hurting or going through a hard time."

The participants seemed to enjoy the race overall.

"It helps me with my conditioning," said Jennifer Bonn, instructor of French at KSU. "It's great to see your improvement from one race to another."

"You get to recognize people who come to the races, and it's great to see how you improve," added Eleana Chesney, also a Cobb County resident. Both women finished second in their age groups.

The race concluded at 10:30 a.m., and awards were given to the top three finishers in each age group. Though a final count of money was unconfirmed, Johnston estimated the event raised close to \$5,000.

• SMOKING from front page

not comply, they may be charged under local and state ordinances. Additionally, the officers can answer questions regarding the content of the smoking policy, but they will not argue about its fairness.

"I don't think violators should be punished by state law, but I do believe they should be punished through the school," said Davis.

"I'm okay with smoking where required, but I would prefer the locations

to be better suited. Maybe a few covered areas spread out," said Patrick Rush, a senior English education major. "If students were actually bothered by it, they would report it without being asked."

"All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to partner with the Department in this endeavor by politely educating smokers who may be unaware of the policy and encouraging those who are aware, but who have chosen to disregard it, to do the right thing," said Anderson.

Women helping women EGG DONORS NEEDED

The Reproductive Biology Egg Bank is seeking women between the ages of 21 and 30 who would like to donate their eggs to infertile couples who otherwise could not conceive. Your donation is completely anonymous and compensation of \$6000 - \$8000 will be paid for your valuable time.

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OPINIONS

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You have the right...

You have the right to remain silent; you have the right to an attorney; you have the right to worship (or not); you have the right to make good choices, or, as the electorate proved in 2006 and 2008, you have the right to make bad choices. You have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. You have these rights just because you are a human being. If you are a spiritual person, your rights are gifts from your Creator; if you are a humanist, then your rights are part of your core operating system. Either way, rights are yours and do not require the permission of any man, woman or government.

Common sense reasons that your rights end where mine begin. If a 60-inch plasma screen television is part of your pursuit of happiness, you are free to pursue it unless that pursuit leads you to take the one in my living room. Then you are likely to meet with my right to defend my home with a large dog and a larger gun. My right to defend my property supersedes your attempted theft of said property. Once we accept this axiom, everyone gets along.

Rights, like my ability to defend my life, liberty and property, are absolute. In other words, rights are colorblind and non-discriminatory; thus, the right of a redheaded, one-eyed stepchild of a crack-addled investment banker is no more special or powerful than another's right. To paraphrase a line from one of the finest books ever penned, your right is not a claim on any other person's right. We have the privilege

of living our lives without someone claiming a part of our life.

Despite a thousand Facebook updates to the contrary, mandatory taxpayer funded health care is not a right; it's theft. The founders were specific in what they be-

“ If your pursuit of happiness conflicts with my property, prepare to meet my right to keep and bear arms. ”

lieved were fundamental rights, and health care was not among them. Perhaps this was because in the 1700s, doctors were actually little more than glorified barbers whose favorite treatments included bloodletting with leeches, colonic purgatives and anesthesia-free surgery—18th century health care was as dangerous as the disease. On the other hand, perhaps, the thought of forcing neighbors to pay for neighbors' visits to the apothecary was an anathema not only to the founders' individualist natures but also in the conviction of the sovereignty of all men over their lives.

No one will deny you your right to pursue the best health care within your means. However, once you expect someone else to pay for your sore throat, or a hospital or doctor to render free service, then you are expecting special treatment not offered to others and you offer nothing in return. You are a moocher.

Education, health care, food stamps and other 'expectations' paid for by others may be social niceties and arguably are required for some level of societal well-being.

However, if support of those institutions is compulsory, then they are no longer niceties, but theft of labor. When a man or woman works, he/she is entitled to a wage. Forcing a wage earner to provide entitlements for others is theft.

While the current discussion is about health care, I am also using 'entitlements' in the largest sense—corporations who make poor decisions are no more entitled to our support than individuals who make poor decisions. The other side of enjoying the rights we have is that people are allowed spectacular successes or epic failures. Either way, they are free to revel or wallow in the results of their efforts.

Is this a callous position? That's what the taxers and takers want you to believe.



TONY SARRECCHIA
OPINIONS EDITOR

Imagine how angry you would be if someone stole your iPod, mobile phone or favorite pen. How would you feel if you worked 30 hours, but the boss decided to pay you for 20, saying that he had a friend who needed the other 10 hours worth of wages? Imagine he did this to you every week.

I argue that it is cruel and immoral to enslave a person to any other person; and that it is particularly evil when done under the threat of imprisonment or, through the use of that other dastardly enslavement: the greater good. Forcing anyone to hand over his or her property is theft. We must stand up against the looters, the moochers and the statists from both political parties, or we will continue to see the modern day colonic purgative of our rights and our freedoms.

Jimmy Carter is wrong

This has been one hot summer in America. Contrary to what you may be thinking, I am not talking about the temperature. The nation is politically polarized on health care. We have seen everything from unruly town hall meetings and angry armed protestors, to an accumulation of folks gathering in Washington to protest the President's

health care plan. Amid this increasingly hostile debate on health reform, the former president from Georgia declared that an "overwhelming portion" of the resistance against Barack Obama is in large part because he is an African-American man. Well, I'm here to tell you that Jimmy Carter is wrong.

Now, let's put this in perspective. I am not that naïve to think that there is not a faction of the President's opposition which believes that Obama is not fit to be the leader of the free world because he is a black man.

These people likely manifest themselves in the "birther" movement, manufacture fake Kenyan birth certificates, show up to protests with pictures of African witch doctors, call for secession and shout various forms of hate speech. But, these people are also a small faction of the opposition to the President's plan and should definitely not be characterized as the "overwhelming portion" of the opposition.

But isn't that what's inherently wrong with this debate? The small minority have been controlling the national conversation on health reform

that the majority seems to want. These individuals receive biased and flat-out incorrect talking points drummed up by special interest groups whose only goal is to stop health care reform at any and all cost. In addition, many Palinites go to the streets, not to necessarily protest any bullet points on the President's agenda but to simply protest the election itself. It appears at times that this debate will never be civil.

It certainly doesn't help that the media is fascinated with this type of behavior. Let's face it: we're a nation of drama queens and the media knows it. America just seems to have a love for disaster. We see this in practice whenever we're driving on the highway and notice ourselves slowing down to check out a car wreck.

Well, Jimmy Carter's recent interview was a *train* wreck. Not only does Carter now give the unwelcome opportunity for those on the left to portray the President as a "victim of malicious racism," but he also opens the door for those on the right to cry that they're all being slandered as "racists" just because they oppose Obama's plan. Neither could be further from the truth.

Don't get me wrong. I realize that the aspect of race has been an issue with the new administration as soon as Barack Obama took his oath of office on Honest Abe's Bible this January. He's the first black president. It's to be expected.

However, it definitely does not help when a former president randomly comes back onto the national stage and starts fanning the flames. With one big fan too, I might add. It didn't take long before we started hearing stories about possible hate crimes popping up around the country. Most notably regarding a white youth who was at-



KEVIN HAGLER
COLUMNIST

tacked by two black fellow students on a bus headed for Belleville West High School in Illinois.

Some are defending Carter and saying that now is the time for a good look at race relations in America. Why in the world would now be a good time for a good look at race? Didn't we go over this last year when then Senator Obama gave his speech on the subject in Philadelphia? Was the topic not once again rehashed during that ridiculous "beer summit" earlier this summer when black Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates was arrested by a white officer? Did we not hear enough about black and white during the two month-long coverage of Michael Jackson's death? Now is not the time to discuss race. With nearly 14,000 people losing their health insurance every day, now is the time for action.

Kevin is a senior who studies economics and finance. Catch him Sundays when he hosts "The Great American Culture Clash" from 11:00am-1:00pm on ksuradio.com.



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Debunking 9/11 conspiracy theories: Part II

American government did not help create Al-Qaeda, Bin Laden raised own funds

In my last article, I discussed some of the conspiracy theories that crop up into public discourse every September. Most people rightfully relegate such ideas to the very fringe of what is considered probable. Unfortunately, there are some commonly-believed inaccurate theories postulated by those who accept that Al-Qaeda may have been involved in the attacks.

The most common of these theories is the idea that Al-Qaeda is controlled by the CIA. Most people will reject this crazy idea, but they may be willing to accept the basis of this hypothesis.

Proponents of this theory always point to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan as "evidence" of U.S. ties to Bin Laden. They are not alone. Many people believe that America was covertly assisting Bin Laden during that war. Even people who should know better are willing to accept this claim.

It is easy to see how this myth came into being. We tend to think of wars as being between two homogenous sides. During World War II, the unlikely allies of the U.S. and the Soviet Union put up a united front against Hitler. When the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979, they faced tough resistance. When Americans turn on the news and see this resistance, there is a tendency to assume that everyone was opposing the Soviet invaders for the same reasons.

This was not the case. U.S. assistance to Afghan mujahedeen who were fighting the Soviet-backed Marxist regime in Afghanistan began during the Carter administration.

The resulting instability of the Afghan government prompted the Soviets to invade Afghanistan in order to put down this resistance and keep the Communists in power.

Over the course of this ten-year war, U.S. covert assistance to the Afghan mujahedeen increased exponentially. All U.S. aid was funneled in through Pakistan.

Unfortunately, native Afghans defending their homes weren't the only people fighting the Soviets. The propaganda spread throughout the Muslim world was that of godless Communists trying to destroy Islam.

Many Afghans are devout Muslims, and images of this war prompted coreligionists around the world to flock to Afghanistan to join this fight. Among them were Bin Laden and his thugs.

The U.S. government never gave any assistance to non-Afghan fighters. Bin Laden had his own financing and didn't need U.S. assistance.

Shortly before the Soviets left, Bin Laden and Abdullah Azzam formed what would come to be Al-Qaeda for the purpose of fighting similar wars around the world on behalf of the Muslim community.

Because of the complex and covert

nature of this war, it is easy to assume that the CIA had been working with Bin Laden and the terrorists who would later attack America. The details are much more nuanced than this myth. America had no role in creating Al-Qaeda. Bin Laden and his gang of fanatics simply capitalized on the propaganda value of the Soviet War to allow them to engage in religious wars elsewhere.

When Rudy Giuliani recited the overused line that "they hate us for our freedom," there were some who rightly pointed out that a hatred of America's freedom was not the reason why Al-Qaeda attacked America.

Bin Laden's 1996 fatwa lists out several reasons behind his declaration of war against America, including U.S. support for Israel and secular Arab regimes, the heavy sanctions imposed on Iraq and the presence of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War.

Terrorism scholar Robert Pape and former CIA chief of the Bin Laden unit Michael Scheuer claim that Bin Laden seeks the fulfillment of entirely political goals, since terrorism is political in nature. Such statements give the impression that Al-Qaeda operates according to a rational-actor model.

What such apologists for terrorism fail to consider is that all of these supposedly political goals of Al-Qaeda are religiously motivated. Why



MATTHEW COLE
GUEST COLUMNIST

would they care about the presence of infidels on holy ground if this were not about religious militancy?

For humans to live peacefully among each other requires the supremacy of reason over irrationality. We can reason with survival-oriented regimes like Saudi Arabia, but we cannot have an amicable understanding with fanatics. U.S. policy towards the Middle East definitely needs serious reform, but we still cannot tolerate terrorists who kill innocent people for no rational reason. Let this be the lesson of 9/11, and please let's stop with all of these ridiculous conspiracy theories. The U.S. government might be evil, but there is also much worse out there, including the terrorists that some are so quick to defend.

A tale of two pigskins

A comparison of the sociocultural 'values' of college and professional football

JAMES SWIFT
COLUMNIST

In the southeastern United States, football is religion. There is not even a need to throw in "practically" or "virtually" within such a statement, as each autumn, the typically protestant Georgian composition rebukes its monotheistic devotion and wholeheartedly embraces the gods of the gridiron as something of a neo-pagan faith.

There's something in the air, something amidst the tailgate exhaust and the freshly crisped leaves that reeks of our collective barbarian roots, that somehow, while seated in our lawn chairs, we are breathing in the same oxygen particles that our raping, pillaging forefathers once inhaled.

Of course, we, with our iced cappuccinos and our debit cards, are far too civilized to partake of such reptilian-brained bloodshed and debauchery; by proxy, those 22 kids on the field have become physical representations of our own suppressed, quasi-murderous animalistic instinct and with corporate sponsorship, to boot.

I recently undertook something of a surreptitious project: for one weekend I stationed myself at the same sports bar, viewing the group makeup and viewing habits of both the Saturday college football throng and the Sunday afternoon pro crowd. Of course, I expected to note discrepancies, but the end result, rather surprisingly, was a revelatory glimpse into the socioeconomic stratum of the concurrent.

The college football atmosphere has something of a party vibe; the "big game" more or less seems as if but a social mixer—just another excuse to break out a surplus of alcoholic beverages. There are a lot of females at these games, and the median age of the mass seems to skew toward a younger demographic.

No one knows the name of the players on the field, and the most adamant fans, the ones who hoot and holler like barnyard animals, are souls that not only did not attend the schools they so vociferously root for, they never went to college period. It's a fairly relaxed environment, with lots of bright, pastel-hued colors. After several hours of ob-

servaion, the whole scene coalesces into a goulash of neon-tinged department store hoodies, glowing margaritas and liquid crystal display radiation.

The next day, when waltzing into the same venue that just an evening before was cluttered with pick up truck driving dads and strawberry-scented co-eds, one undergoes something of a culture shock, as verily, professional football is an entirely different breed than its schoolboy counterpart.

The venue is dark and dank, the only illumination in the edifice stemming from the wall-to-wall, cross-country pigskin coverage. If a commercial break transpires, you just simply get up and run to another TV. Missing one second of football, even if it is a meaningless game played betwixt two teams 1500 miles away, is an unforgivable trespass to the pro football fanatic.

The house is simply jam packed with ugly; there is no pretense and superficiality with the pro fan, and their appearances represents this ethos perfectly. You will not be seeing any glossy lipped, mini-skirted trust fund babies or spiky haired frat boys on

Sunday evenings; rather, you envision a gaggle of beaten down, weathered human beings: if coal miners wore outmoded football jerseys, than indisputably, one could not tell the difference between the two. Even the waitresses are gritty looking; I swear, my server had what appeared to be a knife scar on her cheek.

There's no flirting, there is no mingling. This is just a collection of societal castoffs pulling for the one thing in their respective existences that still has value and significance. Sure, college football fans may love their team, but pro football fans literally live and die for Sunday afternoons. When people watch college ball, you see nothing but smiles. When people watch pro football, you see nothing but gruff grimaces and dedicated stares. College ball is fun amongst children; pro ball is war waged by adults.

College football is but a distraction for the elitist class; pro football is a metaphor for the very being of the struggling class. College football may be the southeast's passion, but veritably, pro football is the southeast.

What are you funding?

It's all in the news: ACORN gets caught five separate times doing more or less the exact same thing (as of this writing): helping pimps, prostitutes and human traffickers evade the law. Of course, these people were just playing parts, which leaves ACORN in a mess.

I won't rehash the details, as anyone can head over to YouTube or Fox News (for those of you who are so inclined) and watch any of the videos. These incidents were not isolated, as they occurred in Baltimore, Washington D.C., Brooklyn, San Bernardino and San Diego, Calif.

Ok, so ACORN is an organization that happens to have several employees who might not be of the best caliber, but why should we be concerned? It's because our money happens to be funding quite a large portion of their business.

While ACORN was not specifically funded by any provisions within the stimulus bill that was passed this past February (though it was eligible for competition for \$5.23 billion dollars of federal funding for housing development), ACORN has received \$53 million from the federal government since 1994. All of this is, of course, excluding the \$800,000 donated by now-President Barack Obama's 2008 campaign. This money, in contrast to the massive \$787 billion economic stimulus package and all of the associated bailouts, may seem like a tiny amount. But it's the principle that matters.

History will show anyone who pays attention that sweeping changes tend to start out fairly small and grow from there. And this small issue of a relatively miniscule amount of money being given to ACORN, an organization that has been shown to be perfectly OK with aiding and abetting criminals, is something I never want to see grow larger.

The way I see it, this plays into how ridiculous fiscal liberalism really is: too much money thrown around means some of it is going to go untraced or unnoticed, at least in comparison to the majority of the funds.

As senators and congressmen from around the country call for an investigation of ACORN and for any funds they receive from federal or state governments to be cut off, we have to ask ourselves: Do we know where our money is going?

The stimulus bill in February, the most recent massive spending offender on most people's minds, was characterized as generally wasteful. Vice President Joe Biden even said that waste in the bill was inevitable. Because of this waste, it stands as a particularly powerful and recent reminder to Americans that when Congress spends large amounts of money,

they tend to overlook certain things.

This is one of the two biggest lessons to learn from this ACORN incident: when the government spends money, it is rarely done well. Instead, it is either wasted, like the vice president pointed out earlier this year, or goes to criminal-aiding organizations like ACORN, which it has been for years.

This is something that will undoubtedly

“...when the government spends money, it is rarely done well.”

edly be difficult to correct, as Congress (and American politics in general) tends to be set in their ways. The second lesson to learn is that we, as American citizens, need to play a more active role in knowing what exactly our tax dollars are paying for. This, of course, is a difficult task, as the thousand-page length bills have reached lately does not lend itself to easy reading. We must nevertheless be



NOAH SOLOMON
COLUMNIST

more vigilant in keeping tabs on what Congress assigns money to, if only minute ones.

The best thing you and I can do is simply to keep in touch with our senators and congressmen. Regardless of what you or they may think, they are elected by us and are our representatives. They will listen to their constituents if their voice is loud enough.

Urge your representatives to read these bills. They are doing the right thing now, by voting to cut off ACORN's funding, thus correcting a previous mistake. But our continued contact with them could urge them to solve these problems before they arise. The question everyone should ask themselves and their representatives is simple: What are we funding?

THE OWL FORUM

Comment on 'Student petitions West Deck parking problems'

As a commuter student who is pregnant and only has classes in the Social Science Building, the West Deck is really the only lot I'm interested in parking in. The Social Science Building is one of the most occupied buildings on campus and yet it has the smallest parking deck. Being at the end of my pregnancy, I really need to park in the West deck so that I'm not hiking up a hill or halfway across campus. It is incredibly frustrating to get to campus 45 minutes early and still be denied entry into the West Deck.

The worst part is that there are plenty of empty spots in there; we can see them from the road! And yet the barricade still stands, and we all end up wasting our gas, circling around campus, trying to kill time until those last 15 minutes when the signs magically disappear and there's a mad scramble into the deck for spots. I realize that the parking officials are just doing their jobs, but as students, so are we. We're trying to get to campus early enough to find a good spot so that we can make it to class on time.

I think that what Mr. Lyu is doing is a great step toward change on this campus. It made me really happy to read an article like this that promotes the students to take the problem into their own hands. I've probably complained about this parking situation to dozens of people and it never crossed my mind to make my voice heard in a position where I could make a difference.

As was said in the article, we, the students of KSU, pay for our right to park on campus and therefore, we have a right to speak up when we know there is a problem that is within reach of a solution. I hope to be reading more about this important story in The Sentinel in the weeks to come.

Rachael Sheinfeld
Mass Media Communications
Senior

'How far is too far' was grand

I am starting my second year at KSU as a transfer student and only once I fell prey to the waste of time you get from standing there debating with the people referenced in the article. They seem to come at least once a semester. In my opinion it is absurd that the protesters are allowed to do this. Something is not right. They discriminate against many of my fellow students. I hope to not see them again on the green that many students sacrifice themselves for and pay for to get educated.

Let's agree to disagree and respect each other in an educated manner. People are different. Let's accept each other, move on and try to focus on more important issues. This is one of the wise lessons I have adopted since being at KSU: I need to be more aware of what's happening on a global scale. Starvation, famine, and war are topics that merit educational time and energy. This is why when I saw those protesters here again in their same little corner, protected by the KSU Police to ensure no violence occurred I kept on walking to pursue my education not argue or observe pointless arguing.

Margaret P. Schmidt
Communications: Media Studies

DWI: Mor crs wl crsh!

Dear Editor,

Let's face it, Americans are driven to distraction. Whether it's screaming kids, bigger billboards or other erratic drivers, we must safely negotiate busier roadways without being overwhelmed by these unavoidable distractions.

But what about avoidable distractions, the ones

drivers create for themselves? We have all seen these high risk drivers in the next lane: eating or drinking, multitasking and calling, among other distractions. While these distractions by all accounts are diversions to safe driving performance, at least they are not designed to take the driver's eyes off the road...and keep them there.

But one avoidable distraction is unique: texting. Like reading a book, texting is designed to take and keep a driver's eyes off the road. Add to that the pervasive texting by our younger and future drivers and it's easy to foresee how this popular trend could become our next deadly highway trend. It's a problem so pervasive some traffic enforcement officers have labeled it "DWI: Driving While Intoxicated."

That is why Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is to be commended for raising the issue in his upcoming national Distracted Driving Summit. Too often, traffic safety policy is established only after thousands die and many times that are severely injured. By addressing the issue before more lives are lost, Secretary LaHood will save immeasurable misery caused to friends and families of loved ones. This is in addition to saving health care costs we as a nation cannot afford.

While some will argue the challenges in enforcing texting laws are too large to overcome, the same arguments were made for other highway safety measures we now take for granted. For example, no longer is it acceptable to drive impaired, or ride without wearing a safety belt, and teens ease into driving with graduated licensing laws. By bringing together safety experts and stakeholders, the Summit will produce life saving enforcement strategies which states may consider adopting to reduce crashes due to texting.

What's the alternative? Hu RU kidN? Mor crs wl crsh!

Bob Dallas
Director

Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Story comments from www.ksusentinel.com

Much ado about abortion

"Of course, all of the above is mere conjecture on my part, and my reasoning is most certainly anything but infallible"

This is the most intelligent line in your opinion article. You need not explain how you vote since over half of your article mentions specific political parties and your disdain for one of them.

Something that you ignore is the idea of protecting those who cannot protect themselves. These would include the unborn, the handicapped, the elderly and other groups that are marginalized by society. This includes many of the poor who receive welfare and food stamps as charity is a twin brother to the Respect for Life philosophy. Most Pro-Lifers are also active in St. Vincent de Paul, Must Ministries, the Hope Center and many other charities that help support those who have already been born.

Surveys have shown that the people who you disdain in your article and are often labeled as "Conservatives," "Christians," "Right Wings," "Pro-Lifers," and even "Republicans" contribute five times more of their income, as a percentage, to charities than people who fit into the opposite categories. So they are already performing the task you request out of their belief, rather than a self-serving hypocrisy.

But not all who receive welfare and food stamps require the assistance of others....

Kevin Butz

...Good grief! What a load of logical fallacy... you're saying that abortion should be legal because Republicans don't think that people should pay to keep the lazy and untalented fat and happy. At least you didn't argue the death penalty/pro life point, because there is a world of difference between an unborn child who has yet to pursue his/her happiness and someone who commits a crime so heinous as to invoke the death penalty

Personally, I am not just Pro-Choice, I am Pro-Abortion... Having and raising children is serious business, but what protections and safeguards are there? None. You have to take a test and jump through hoops to drive a car, but any pair of properly equipped idiots can squirt out a child every year or so...

Plenty of good reasons to argue for Pro-choice, James. No need to attack people's religious views to do so. Just because you don't understand it doesn't mean they aren't sincere... (wrong, but sincere).

David Dalton

How far is too far

I'm pretty amazed that a group of people with what I'm assuming is at least a college education don't get the free speech clause of the first amendment.

A group like the KKK has a right to say (mostly) anything they want. That, however, is not synonymous with saying that the KKK has a right to go wherever they want and say whatever they want. The free speech clause of the first amendment rights the right to say whatever you want, not a platform anywhere you want to say what you want. There's a difference between the right to say what you want without fear of prosecution and the (nonexistent) right to go wherever you want and shove whatever message you want down peoples throats...

...Garrett Moll

If you would deny this group of 'zealots' their constitutional right of free speech, perhaps we should surround you with mirrors. If you peered closely, you would see that you words and sentiments closely resemble aspects of the Patriot Act, which denies citizens their rights to privacy and due process, or perhaps you would desire to be compared with a legislature that would fine citizens for not carrying health insurance.

If you were a dessert, you would be facism on a stick. Why, you ask? Because in your ideal world, you allow yourself only one opinion: to be forward thinking. This narrow-minded view only allows room for what will be, not what is or what has been. If only this forward thinking were allowed, then we can throw civil liberties out the window with all other opinions that you don't like.

In fact, Mr. Turner, if the mirror was turned on yourself, you would probably closely resemble these "bigots" that you so despise.

...Michael

Why social security is a ponzi scheme

I would like you to think about the people that are already retired and do not have the time or opportunity to build a retirement on their own. I do not think that this means that you're stupid and cannot do this on your own. I resent this statement. I have worked all my life and raised four children pretty much on my own, and had nothing left

over to invest. I never got the chance to pay into a 401K. I did pay into Social Security and into my retirement fund, which was all that was available to me. I might not have known of other options, however that does not make me stupid. I do not agree however, that if you were not married for 10 years that you would not get benefits through your husband's social security. I was only married for seven years to both my husbands, and raised their children, while they were able to keep their career going and improving status. This is one of the most unjust things. If you want to get upset, please work on this problem. I am a high school graduate and may not have all the knowledge that you have but please do not tell me I am stupid. I take that statement very personal.

...Beverly Brewer

No football team needed, vote 'no' in October

Wow I can't believe you are honestly saying that football equals stupidity. Have you ever heard of Georgia Tech, Florida, Vanderbilt, Wake Forest, UNC, Duke, Michigan or UCLA? In addition, the Ivy League schools also have football teams. All of these schools have very highly rated academic degree programs, as well as generate tremendous value for their respective degree holders.

You present your case like KSU is some scholarly environment filled with great thinkers that will easily be distracted by childish sporting events. Have you ever looked at the admission requirements? I hate to say it but KSU is NOT known for academics; I'm sorry if you thought you went to a smarter school.

Is this the right time for KSU football? Maybe not, considering the budgetary conflict facing almost all higher education institutions. However, in the future, KSU will NEED a football team to eventually become a somewhat respectable national university. With football comes attention, with attention comes increased applications for admission, and when more people apply you can be more selective. Football programs have a direct correlation to the value of your degree. It's been proven so many times. Just look at how USF and UCF have turned from commuter to nationally known in the past five years.

Your argument is just idiotic.

Brian Stewart

Read comments posted in response to these and other editorials at

ksusentinel.com

Get the conversation started by posting your own response.

FEATURES

I didn't mean to be all preschoolish, but what's she doing?"

Gay black author tells it like it is

SARAH WALRAVEN
STAFF WRITER

Until E. Patrick Johnson came along, the stories of gay black men were seldom heard.

Johnson, a professor and Chair in the Department of Performance Studies and professor of African-American studies at Northwestern University, performed readings for "Pouring Tea: Black Gay Men of the South Tell Their Stories," on Sept. 18 and 19.

The stories Johnson told came from his book, "Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South—An Oral History." For this book, Johnson interviewed 77 men and collected more than 3,000 pages of transcripts.

Johnson performed the show seated onstage, with just a stand for his notes and a table for his glass of sweet tea. During the show, he narrated the lives of black men from the South. The men interviewed ranged from 19 to 93 years old, and provided accounts of different times in their lives.

Before Johnson began each narrative, he played a clip from the interview. Then Johnson launched into the story, imitating the voice and mannerisms of the man he interviewed.

R. Dioneaux was a quick-witted man who spoke quickly, with sharply accented words. Dioneaux was frequently threatened with expulsion from school for fighting. His dean encouraged him to beat people with his smarts, not his fists, so he began to tutor people. The people who were hateful and called him names often failed. "Call me a name—you flunk," Dioneaux said.

Johnson also spoke of how Dioneaux resented the stigma that AIDS had attached to black gay men.

Johnson recounted the story of a gay Morehouse College student who had his head bashed in. To make an example, Johnson mentioned Matthew Shepherd, a gay white man who was killed in a hate crime, and how the media covered his death extensively. In contrast, they said nothing of the victim from Morehouse. From this story, Johnson drew one piece of advice for gay black men—don't go to a historically black college.

Countess Vivian was 92 when Johnson interviewed him, and he was the oldest person whose story is recorded in the book. Johnson shared that Vivian lived in New Orleans, one block from Bourbon Street. Vivian did not leave during Hurricane Katrina yet survived. He told stories of the white men picking up black cross-dressers who would steal the men's wallets. The men

would not dare report these thefts, so they became popular ruses.

Vivian was diagnosed with colon cancer in 1983. His doctor said if he lived five years it would be good. Vivian said, "Well, I done lived." Vivian explained that he was active and "to keep my beauty up, I use my Oil of Olay."

Another interviewee, Stephen, was raised in a religious family and wanted more than anything not to be gay. Stephen was mocked as a child for being effeminate, so he spent much of his childhood trying to masculinize himself. As part of the process, Stephen dated girls and at 17, he even fathered a child with one of his girlfriends. He told Johnson people knew him in college as "the only straight guy in the theater department."

Also in college, Stephen began to expand his worldview along with his mind. He told Johnson he was reading about people who were not "black and Christian," particularly Gandhi. Stephen reasoned that, in his religion, Gandhi would not go to heaven, which he could not accept. That thought opened the door for Stephen to realize his true self.

Duncan Teague is renowned in Atlanta for being an AIDS activist. He has been with his partner, David, for 11 years. Teague moved to Atlanta to be in theater but, instead, he became an activist. Though he does not personally have the disease, AIDS has changed Teague's life.

Teague talks of the theater opportunities that have been taken away, the clothing designers who will never get a chance to design, and of friends who have been lost. He thinks AIDS is not discussed openly as much as it should be. "It ain't a problem for most of them because they aren't accepting it's a problem," Teague said.

"[The performance] kind of gave me a new perspective on black gay men," freshman Ashlea Quarles said. "I never really thought about how they live before and it was kind of interesting. He was a really good performer. His enthusiasm drew me in."

"It was really well done," freshman Tyler Robertson said. "His voice and how he described how it was now and how it was in the past made it interesting."

"This has been a wonderful process for me," Johnson said. "When I started this project I didn't know the impact this book would have on people's lives until I started traveling around the country and hearing the stories. Not just from black gay men, but from lots of people from different orientations and across the racial spectrum."



Photo Courtesy of the Art's PR Department

Rare book library preserves literary past



SUMMER BROWN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Slide on the white gloves waiting at the door and prepare to be transported to an 18th century library. According to Tamara Livingston, director of the Department of Archives, the gallery is "one of the most beautiful places on campus—with some incredible treasures from Shakespeare and Chaucer."

A few of the treasures are a first edition of the complete works of Chaucer (1542), a Fourth Folio Shakespeare (1685) and an Apollo Lunar Rover map that has been to the moon. Continue to browse and find 15,000 volumes of authors such as Twain, Dickens and Pliny the Elder.

A rare book does not always have age as a prerequisite—limited release is another criteria. "Conjuros y Ebriedades" by Amber Pasta, a collection of ritual poetry from Central American women, was created by a bookmaking coop that used only local materials such as flowers, grasses and cardboard to create the cover—only 500 copies were released to the public. KSU has kept its copy in pristine condition under glass. In 30 years it may be one of the only surviving copies.

Apart from book collections, the gallery is also home to a type of art known as fore-edge painting. This book art can only be seen when the pages of the book are held at a certain angle.

The Bentley Gallery is distinct

Laura Powell | The Sentinel

from other rare book galleries in that it is a teaching gallery where a student cannot only look at, but also hold and thumb through these pieces of history. Wesley Wicker, vice president of University Advancement and executive director of the KSU Foundation, said, "A professor can talk to students in a classroom all day, but to let them touch, experience and smell history is to make it come alive."

A presentation held at the Sturgis Library marked an auspicious moment in the university's evolution. The Bentley Rare Book Gallery and the Department of Archives, Special Collections and Records Management merged to preserve and disseminate KSU's historical memory and its priceless collections of books and documents. The Rare Books Gallery and the Department of Archives' purpose is shared—to remember who we were, how we became who we are today and to provide a link to people from past centuries.

The KSU Athenaeum Gallery, a series of programs created under Livingston, has launched its "Institute of the Book" program. The program includes a "Great Libraries of the World" library tour program, a certificate program including book collecting, history of books and book conservation/preservation, offered through the KSU Continuing Education program, along with a public lecture series.

Wind ensemble enchants with moving melodies

LINDSEY WEBER
STAFF WRITER

More than 200 guests attended the KSU Wind Ensemble's first concert on Sept. 17. The wind ensemble encompasses a wide variety of instruments from clarinets, flutes and horns to a piano, double bass, euphonium and bassoon.

Founded in 1996, the ensemble is renowned for its talented performers. However, before their first concert, Conductor David Kehler admitted to some pre-concert nerves: "We've only been together three weeks so things have had to come together very quickly." Also, Kehler mentioned the students' amazing work ethic: "The improvement from the first rehearsal has been remarkable and I think it is going to be a very exciting program."

From the moment the concert began, the ensemble conveyed confidence and focus. Beginning with Dmitri Shostakovich's "Festive Overture," the cavernous performance hall was filled with triumphant melodies and harmonies, setting the mood for the remainder of the evening.

In stark contrast to the jubilant march before, the second piece "Hold This Boy and Listen" by Carter Pann was captivatingly romantic and contemplative.

Before playing Gustav Holst's "Suite in Eb," Kehler announced that he included the piece because this year is its 100th anniversary. In three movements building in intensity, a simple melody worked through each section of the ensemble before inverting itself midway.

Percy Grainger's "Children's March" added more percussion to the ensemble, creating a playful energy. Contributing to the mood, Kehler conducted each piece with his entire body, using both hands, bouncing up on his toes and channeling the emotion of the music as though he were an instrument himself.

The best piece was saved for the evening's close. "'Give Us This Day' by David Maslanka was inspired through natural and spiritual elements," Kehler said. "Although it has two movements, the music never stops, but the movements are so distinct, you will be able to recognize them."

The piece began slowly, drawing upon Asian harmonies and rhythms to create a dark, mysterious mood. As Kehler predicted, the second movement was marked by the ensemble's transition to a frantic pace and a magical sound that brought listeners to their feet with applause.

According to the Department of Music's Web site, many ensemble members have continued their studies at music schools such as Julliard and the University of Michigan. Furthermore, more than 100 musicians in KSU Wind Ensemble have earned positions in the National Wind Ensemble.



Lindsey Weber | The Sentinel



Atlanta's green markets benefit communities

ANASTASIA BARTOLUCCI
STAFF WRITER

Fresh fruits, nuts, meats, shellfish, soaps, body products, vegetables, herbal tinctures, flowers, wools, fibers and books are a few offerings from the Green Market, one of Atlanta's neighborhood farmer's markets.

The Green Market is located in Piedmont Park in Atlanta, spanning the Dogwood streets along the spacious recreation area. It is home to a hodgepodge of merchants and farmers who come together to sell an array of organic products—including natural and locally grown produce.

Every Saturday, locals come to sift through each vendor's variety of healthy foods and goods. Voted one of the top five "green markets" in the area, Piedmont Park's Green Market encourages sustainable communities and collective involvement.

Every first and third Saturday of the month, the "EnviroVentures Saturday Drop-By" program lets visitors get involved with interactive projects—making the marketplace a great setting for the whole family. Children stay entertained at the "graffiti tent" playing with chalk on the concrete walkway. Parents scope out the natural merchandise offered by more than 50 different vendors on the city green.

Every Saturday, Piedmont Park features cooking demonstrations led by some of Atlanta's prominent chefs. They prepare healthy dishes for small crowds while using ingredients provided and sold through the vendors.

The Green Market also hosts live music events. Every weekend, featured local musicians and entertainers fill the marketplace with a collection of rhythm and distinctive sound. Blues and jazz, marching bands and an assortment of local and worldly tunes amplify the shopping experience.

Likewise, the Smyrna Fresh Produce Market assimilates every Saturday morning, offering an array of merchandise—similar to Piedmont Park's Green Market. The market is located within downtown Smyrna Village, with elegant shops and restaurants around the local vendors. City-organized merchants integrate harvests and other products to meet everyone's organic needs.

Scott Reaver, an organic and regionally grown produce merchant, set up tent over the weekend, despite the rain and overcast sky. This was Reaver's second year as a participating vendor at the Smyrna Market Village. Displayed on his picnic



Photo Courtesy of Walker Powell

tablecloth was everything from avocados, eggplant, melon and okra. His most popular produce are Silver Queen corn-on-the-cob and traditional globe tomatoes, both of which had already sold out.

On the weather's effect on his business, Reaver said, "It's not too bad. The drought has been poor for farming, but a blessing for markets." Reaver kept positive to neutralize the dismal weather, which he claims paid off with the unexpected high turnout and decent day's profit.

Many opinions circulate over the advantages of buying from farmer's markets versus corporate grocery stores. Some people are drawn to fresh produce for the peace of mind from knowing from their food's origin. At the market, health nuts can buy heartily at favorable prices.

Cindy Rice, a frequent shopper of the Piedmont Green Market, heaves four full grocery bags into her trunk before heading back for more.

"I bought a pound of Granny Smith apples, swordfish tuna, fresh brown eggs, tomatoes, onion and two house plants for under 26 bucks," Rice said. She laughed as she recalled one of the onions that was the size of her arm.

However, the more popular reason to shop the green markets is to assist with local community development. The U.S. has nearly two million farms and about 80 percent of those are small farms, which are mostly family-owned. By purchasing from a local grower, you can help the small-time farmer while still promoting a healthy community.

"Keeping money within the district, we help out the communal market rather than these huge, nationwide grocery companies," Reaver said.

For instance, green and red muscadines were the popular weekend fruit among the tables. A muscadine is a grape usually converted to make desert wines and they are locally harvested from the Silver Comet Trail in Smyrna—fresh from the Chattahoochee banks to the market tables.

Even if you're not interested for any other reason, going out to Piedmont Park's Green Market is a nice way to spend a Saturday morning. The fresh outdoor air, entertainment and social interaction provide a pleasant escape for all.

Talk like a pirate, walk like a ninja



SYDNEY SEWELL
STAFF WRITER

If you missed out on International Talk-Like-a-Pirate day on Sept. 19, you'll have to wait until next year to greet your friends with "Arr, me hearties" or "Ahoy matey" not to have them return your pirate-speak with bewildered stares.

Like-a-Pirate day began as a parodic holiday in 1995 as the brainchild of John Baur aka Ol' Chumbucket and Mark Summers aka Cap'n Slappy, both middle-aged men from Oregon. The two decided that Sept. 19 would become the day when people worldwide should talk like pirates.

Most of us might recognize that the "pirates versus ninjas" debate has persisted for some time now, originating as an Internet meme, a concept that spreads quickly from person to person via the Internet.

Considering this debate, the question resurfaces at KSU: talk like a pirate or walk like a ninja?

Between polls in person and on Facebook, 100 students were asked if they would rather be a pirate or a ninja. Out of the surveyed group,



84 percent chose ninjas, leaving the pirate portion with a mere 16 percent of the vote.

Clearly, the results show that ninjas are cooler than pirates at KSU. With this in mind, can we expect students to wrap themselves in black and creep on their tiptoes when Dec. 5, Annual Day of the Ninja, rolls around?



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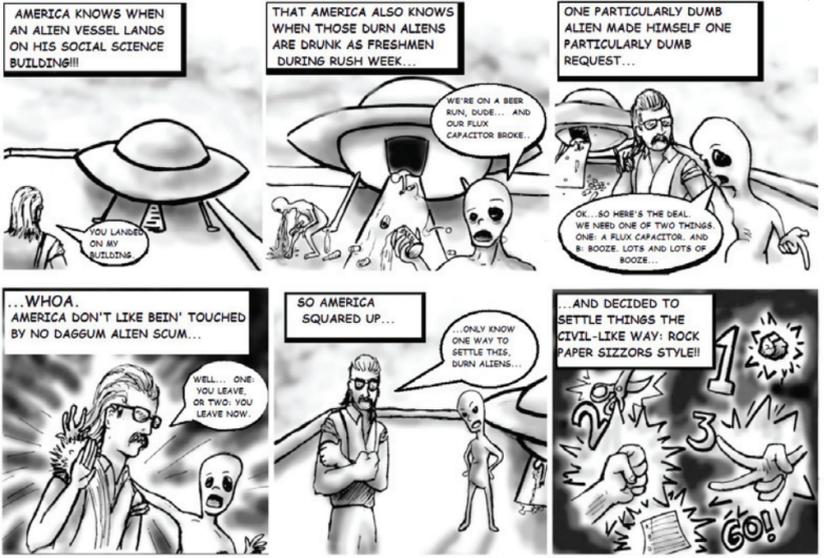
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THE LEGEND OF AMERICA Issue #3

By Ivan Villa & Brett Frank (They Rock)



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Anime convention shows off interesting 'cosplay'

MATT NIX
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Anime Weekend Atlanta (AWA) raided the Cobb Galleria Center with its many attendees on the weekend of Sept. 18. AWA is a yearly exposition that celebrates Japanese animation, illustration and culture. Guests included ninjas, giant robots, assassins and at least one man dressed as Sailor Moon.

The convention began in 1995 with its first home as the Castlegate Hotel and Conference Center. As the convention continued to grow in size and popularity, it moved to the Cobb Galleria and Renaissance Waverly Hotel.

Now in its 14th year, AWA has become one of the largest conventions in the U.S., with more than 9,000 attendees flocking to the center to celebrate and discuss anime—the Japanese art style most renowned for spawning mainstream series such as Dragonball Z, Sailor Moon and Gundam Wing. For those who partake in anime “fandom,” including early teens to older adults, the three-day convention is the highlight of their year.

AWA hosts numerous panels, events and screenings for its guests, including sit-downs with famous voice actors and artists.

The convention also hosts a dealers' room where convention-goers can drop money to their hearts' content on everything from the inane to the intriguing. Cat-eared beanie hats, rare and out-of-print video games and comics are just a few of its offerings—the dealers' room becomes an interesting showcase of what the convention has to offer.

Another noteworthy feature of the convention is the artist alley, where artists from Atlanta and other states showcase their wares, work and extensive art catalogs. Some artists will even draw commission work for con-goers, drawing personal sketches, fan art and abstract designs.

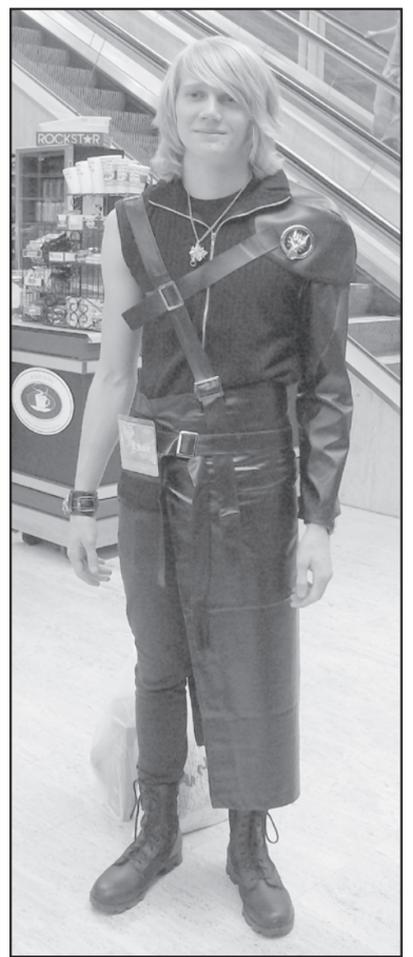
Most con-goers usually participate in “cosplay” (short for costume play), in which they will dress up as a character or group of characters from a particular anime series.

At AWA, you can usually see many guests wandering the streets around the center in full character dress. Many of these people make and sew their own outfits and will then network with other con-goers to share tips and show off their designs.

Out of guests who cosplayed this year, many chose to dress as characters from anime series such as Hetalia, Black Butler and Naruto. Noteworthy costumes were Sailor Moon cosplayed by a large balding man, a large group of people disguised as Tetris blocks, a figure masquerading as a giant box of chocolate Pocky and an enormous Shoop Da Whoop who was, in fact, charging his lasers.

“This convention has always been great. I get to hang out with a bunch of people who are all as nerdy as I am,” said Megan Willis, who drove from Alabama to come to AWA. “You get to see everyone's creativity and style, it's a place where people can really let loose and their imagination roam. You don't see that a lot anymore.”

On Sunday, as AWA drew to an end and the center's halls grew empty, participants left the event having gained experience and friendships that would last until next year's convention, bringing with it another slew of ninjas, assassins and robots.



Photos by Karlee Gonzalez | The Sentinel

SPORTS



Running away from the pack

Junior Mackenzie Howe has won the first four events of the season, and now holds the conference record with seven career Runner of the Week awards.

Photos courtesy of KSU SID

JUSTIN HOBDDAY
SPORTS EDITOR

Junior Mackenzie Howe is off to a perfect start after winning the first four events of the season.

The Atlantic Sun Conference honored Howe with the first three Runner of the Week awards of the season, and she now holds the A-Sun record with seven Runner of the Week awards.

"It means a lot to me," said Howe. "We all work hard and when you win [individual awards] it shows that all of your hard work is paying off. It makes me want to work harder."

The Crimson Classic, hosted by the University of Alabama, marked the first 5K event of the season for the Owls, and pitted Howe and the Owls against the toughest competition of the season. Howe won the race with a time of 17:13, three seconds ahead of Auburn's Holly Knight.

"It was great racing against Holly Knight from Auburn. Being neck-and-neck with her throughout the race was a great motivator," said Howe. "Right around the three-mile mark I realized that I still had a lot left, and that I had a really good chance to finish in front. It was fun to overcome a challenge like that."

Howe won the first event of the season with a time of 11:07 at the 2-mile event hosted by Jacksonville State University, and followed that with a time of 11:15 at the Powerade Invitational in Chattanooga, Tenn. She also took the victory at the RunFit Invitational hosted by Mercer University on Sept. 26 with a time of 17:56.

"The only thing that is going to hold Mackenzie Howe back is Mackenzie Howe," head coach Stan Sims said. "She has really blossomed into a really good distance runner, and we are just pleased

that she is with us."

Sims said that his biggest problem is finding meets that will challenge Howe. He said that she is on the verge of greatness, but that he has to find the competition for her to go up against that will prove it.

"She's out running the field by meters. She's out 50 meters in front of the second place girls," said Sims. "I've got to get her to a meet where someone is going to push her."

That meet should have been the Crimson Classic where region powers Tennessee, Auburn, Georgia Tech and host Alabama competed. Howe may have proven her greatness since she became the first KSU runner to win three consecutive races since the program's move to Division I in 2005, and now she has extended the streak to four races.

The Watkinsville, Ga. native almost decided not to run in college.

"I wasn't sure that I wanted to run for a college until my senior year [in high school]," said Howe. "I didn't really get a lot of time to visit a lot of schools so I didn't have a lot of options, but I really did like [KSU]. So it worked out good."

Howe said she runs between 50-70 miles a week. This definitely keeps her busy, but she tries to find free time on days before a meet when the team doesn't practice.

"My free time is limited obviously. I like to go see friends that I haven't been able to see, and sometimes when I get to, I like to go home, but it's rare that I get to do that," said Howe. "I also like to play tennis, but coach doesn't really like me to do that during the season."

The Walt Disney World Cross Country Classic Oct. 10 is the next race for Howe and the Cross Country teams.



Howe runs between 50-70 miles a week.

Cross Country teams sweep RunFit Invitational

JUSTIN HOBDDAY
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's and women's cross country teams finished in first place at the RunFit Invitational in Macon, Ga. Saturday, Sept. 26.

Scott Burley, Nabil Hamid and Jaakko Nieminen each delivered

top-five finishes, leading the Owls to victory with a 37-point total.

Burley finished the 8k event with a time of 26:54, well enough for a third place finish. Hamid finished a mere second behind Burley in fourth place, and Nieminen finished in 27:00 for fifth place. Hamid now has two top-five finishes in his freshman season.

"The teamwork today was awesome for us," said Burley. "When

we had the chance to all run together, it was great, because we were pushing each other and making sure that we were all running at the same competitive pace. We did know how important it was for us to eventually separate a little bit, because we needed to each finish as strong as we possibly could, but it was a great way to set the tone."

Senior Michael Johnson finished the race in 12th with a time of 27:35, and junior Peikko Solla finished in 15th place. Freshman Ryan Burrus just missed the top-20 with a time of 28:02 in 21st place, and Andrew Greeson rounded out the day for the Owls in 54th place with a time of 29:30.

"Michael Johnson really ran a great race today. It was good to see him so focused the whole way," Sims said. "Running in a pack like we did was good to see, but we have to make sure that something like that doesn't make us complacent. It can be tempting not to want to pass your teammates, but we have to make sure that our runners are shaving as many seconds off of their individual times first and foremost."

Junior Mackenzie Howe led the women once again after winning her fourth consecutive race of the season with a time of 17:56. Senior Britany Reilly took second place in 19:32.

"I felt good today. A group of us ran together at the front, then when we got to the first hill, I decided to take it up a notch. I thought some of them would run with me, but it was at that point that I created some space between myself and the field," Howe said. "This is definitely a tough course and I was prepared for that, having run here twice last year. The hills make it especially challenging, and very familiar to the course in [Tuscaloosa, Ala.]. You have to know what your limitations are and when to conserve your energy."

Both teams had past experience at the course at the Georgia Industrial Children's Home. The men and women both took third place when the Atlantic Sun Conference Championships were held there last season, and the women also took second at the RunFit last season.

"I was really happy with several of our runners' efforts today," said Sims. "Britany [Reilly] ran a great race, which we've seen from her consistently this season. In particular, I thought Lorena really stepped up today. If she can do what she did today for the rest of the season, that will make us even tougher to beat coming down the stretch."

The teams take this week off before heading down to Orlando, Fla. Oct. 10 for the Walt Disney Cross Country Classic.



Scott Burley (right) finished third at the RunFit Invitational helping the Owls take the team victory.

Photo Courtesy of KSU SID

Volleyball struggles in weekend matches



Photo by Christine Morales | The Sentinel

JOHN MORBITZER
STAFF WRITER

KSU Volleyball's (7-6, 2-4) fast start to the season has slowed with a five-game losing streak in matches against tough conference opponents.

"At this level you can't linger on, it's back to back. You have to put together two good nights," head coach Karen Weatherington said.

The Owls trailed to begin all sets with ETSU Friday, Sept. 18 and struggled to find a rhythm offensively.

"(ETSU) are a little slower paced team, they like to be more methodical, slow the game down, wipe the floor, things like that," said Weatherington. "Some of us don't respond well to that at times, but when we could use it to our advantage we could get momentum on our side."

That momentum was needed in the fourth set, where KSU rallied from a seven-point deficit to win 25-21. That set forced a fifth and decisive set, as both teams stayed competitive.

In the fifth set, KSU had match point at 14-13, but could not finish, and allowed ETSU to fight back and win the match, 3 sets to 2.

"I don't think we played well, but we competed well. We did a lot of stuff on the fly, and made changes that were not normal. I was happy with what we did, just didn't come out on the right side," said Weatherington.

After a heart-breaking loss Friday night, the Owls welcomed Campbell to the Convocation Center Saturday Sept. 19, to salvage the weekend. However, the Camels came out on top 3 sets to 1.

"We struggled passing the ball effectively against Campbell's serve," said Weatherington.

KSU dropped the first two sets, rallying to take the third, before losing decisively in the fourth 25-10. The fourth set was the worst of the season for the Owls with a -.036-attack percentage.

Sabrita Gulley had another strong offensive performance with 21 kills in the match. Asjia Stokes added 18 kills of her own. Both players recorded double-doubles along with Rachel Albright, who had 36 assists and 17 digs.

"We carried over some of the slow start through the week of practice. We came out with a little lack of intensity and we saw that. So I tell them that's unacceptable, and in this game every point is precious," said Weatherington.

Following the conference losses, KSU took on the Georgia State Panthers, and while taking their first ever set from GSU in the second, fell 3 sets to 1.

The Owls rallied to come within one point of GSU in the first set, but a Panthers kill on set point was the deciding factor. In the second set KSU was down 23-19, but numerous key blocks lead the Owls to rally and take the set 25-23. Set three saw a 10-5 lead from the Owls, but they couldn't hang on, dropping the set after a 21-21 tie, and also losing in the fourth to end the match.

"We are very happy that Georgia State was willing to host. Georgia State has been a class act through this ordeal," Weatherington stated concerning the change in venue due to the heavy rains in Cobb County.

The Owls traveled to Nashville Sept. 25 and 26 for two conference matches against Belmont and Lipscomb but could not break the losing

streak.

The Owls surprised Belmont by taking the first two sets 21-25 and 16-25, but the Bruins came back to win the final three sets and take the match.

The Owls fell behind in the first set 8-1, but the team fought back to take the set and carried the momentum into the second. The nine-point victory in the second set matched the second-largest margin in a set in the season. KSU struggled to win the next three sets and could not put Belmont away, losing 3 sets to 2.

"Belmont has traditionally been one of the toughest teams in the A-Sun, so it's encouraging that we were able to compete with them," said Weatherington. "But there is a difference between competing and winning, and we have to learn to fight to make that difference."

Staying in Nashville the Owls took on the Lipscomb Bisons, but could not win a set and lost their fifth straight match in straight sets, 3-0.

"Lipscomb could turn out to be the class of the A-Sun this year," said Weatherington. "They are a very solid team and presented a lot of challenges for us on the court today."

KSU struggled through the first set, and it carried over through the rest of the match. Although the Owls fought to tie 13-13 in the second set, Lipscomb finished with a 5-0 run that KSU could not overcome. The Bisons then took the lead in the third and finished the match with a 25-18 win to continue the losing skid.

The team has a week of practice to regroup and attempt to stop the losing streak before they host North Florida in the Convocation Center Friday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m.

Rain alters weekends for women's soccer team

BEN HAMPTON
STAFF WRITER

The KSU women's soccer team wrapped up a rain soaked 4-game stretch of home games last Sunday at the KSU soccer complex. Unfortunately, one of the games had to be postponed due to the weather. In the other three matches the Owls went 2-1, tallying nine goals while only allowing one.

The first game on Friday, Sept. 18 against Samford (5-0-1) was postponed due to excessive rainfall in the Kennesaw area.

In the second contest, the Owls faced a winless Alabama A&M (0-9) bulldog squad Sunday, Sept. 20. Due to the fact that the KSU soccer complex was underwater the match was moved to Cobleigh Field at Harrison High School, where they have artificial turf that drains much better than a natural field.

"We wanted to get the game in first of all, and our field was water-logged," explained KSU head coach Rob King. "It was one of those games where at the last minute we were able to come over here and play, so I was very glad that we got the game in."

Even though the game was a bit sloppy at times, it was obvious from the outset of this match that the KSU women were going to have their way with the Bulldogs. A&M rarely made its way past midfield as they scurried around on defense throughout much of the match. The number of goals could have been much higher, but an eager KSU attack was called off-sides on nine occasions.

"It's hard playing against a team that's at a lower level technically to you because you tend to play down to them," said Caitlin Dingle. "So we were just trying to play our game. Knock the ball around a little bit and play some good soccer."

The scoring for KSU started in the 24th minute as freshman defender Jade Dempster scored her third goal of the year. Then in the 36th minute of action, red-shirt senior Dingle scored her first collegiate goal after being sidelined for nine months due to injury.

"The ball got caught up in the middle and Sadjir Williams bumped it up to Katie Schwartz and she just played it through to me," said Dingle. "I just got a good strike on it and found the back of the net. It's good to score goals again."

As the ladies headed in for halftime they led by two goals and out-shot their opponent 16-1.

The Bulldogs did manage to get six shots off in the second half, allowing freshman goalkeeper Melissa Hutto the opportunity for two saves during the match after she was sent in during the 52nd minute of play for Staci Pugh.

KSU picked right back up in the second half when Katie Scott got her first goal of the year in the 64th minute off a beautiful long ball sent over the Bulldog defense by Thais Gibson. After streaking past the last defender, Scott calmly tucked the ball into the corner of the goal.

Ten minutes later, Alyssa Mahan got her second assist of the night as the Owls extended their lead to four goals when Kristin Kranick scored her first goal of the season.

Dingle converted a penalty kick in the 80th minute, and the last goal of the contest came when Savannah Duet took a shot on goal that deflected off the A&M keeper. KSU freshman midfielder Liz Blackburn found the ball and got her first goal of the year, leading the Owls to a 6-0 victory.

On the final two matches of the home streak the Owls played two conference games, one against Stetson (5-4, 1-1 A-Sun) Friday, Sept. 25, and then against Florida Gulf Coast (7-3-1, 2-0-0 A-Sun) Sunday, Sept. 27.

Against Stetson all of the action would come in the first half of play, as KSU was able to find the back of the net three times.

Mahan scored the first goal of the night and her third of the season in the 25th minute when she headed a rebound home to go up 1-0. Brittany Vining and Maylee Attin-Johnson each had an assist on the play. After this weekend Mahan has three goals and three assists on the season, giving her nine total points, which leads all KSU players.

Ten minutes later, the Owls got their second goal of the evening.

Once again the accurate and powerful leg of Jade Dempster was the catalyst for the KSU goal.

"I think we have a real weapon in Jade, because she can hit that 40-yard ball that other girls can't hit," said King. "It's something we spoke about during the week, to try and take them on using our speed, and we did a very nice job of that."

In the 45th minute Bridget Gaughan picked up the second goal of her career when she scored on a corner kick from Dingle which put the Owls up 3-0 heading into halftime.

In the second half, the KSU defense smothered attack after attack from Stetson. Although the Hatters were able to get a few close chances at goal, KSU keeper Staci Pugh fought hard to keep her clean-sheet, finishing with seven saves that evening. No save was bigger than the one she made in the 72nd minute, as she stuffed Stetson forward Heather Berg on a one-on-one breakthrough.

"Staci's back to her old self," King said. "She had a great first season with us, and then she got injured. It takes time to get back physically and then you have to get that confidence back, and she's done that, she's back."

In the final home game this past Sunday the Owls faced a very tough A-Sun opponent in Florida Gulf Coast University. On Friday

the Eagles visited Mercer, and came away with a 2-1 victory. Sunday they completed their sweep of Georgia defeating KSU 1-0, in a very tight contest.

The only goal of the match came in the 34th minute when FGCU senior midfielder Amber McCall received a ball from Jennifer Crittenberger inside the penalty box to score her fourth goal of the year.

"We broke down in the midfield and we were left a little bit short in the back," said King. "It ended up being a pretty easy attempt on goal and they put it away."

Despite many close chances in the waning moments of the game, the Eagles were up to the challenge. KSU out-shot the Eagles 12-8, but just could not seem to find the back of the net on this afternoon.

Kristen Kranick led all KSU players with four shots, but it was Lauren Ruffini who almost scored the tying goal in the 90th minute off a header that was blocked by the FGCU defense.

"I'm pleased with where we are over the last couple of weeks," King said. "We need to just get in the training room, get healed up a little bit, and then be ready for next weekend."

The Owls continue conference play next weekend when they head down to Florida and take on North Florida Friday evening and Jacksonville Sunday afternoon.

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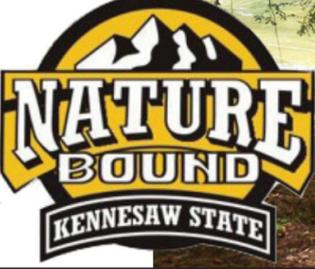
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KSU FLOOD: CAMPUS LO



Paul Daly | The Sentinel

Buildings on Campus Loop Road, including the Catholic Center, shown above, experienced the heaviest flooding on campus. Many of the buildings and houses had to be evacuated, and the offices had to be relocated to other buildings on campus.



Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel

Above, students wrestle on the flooded Campus Green. About 50 students could be seen using the Green as a giant Slip 'n Slide and throwing around a Frisbee. When asked why they were willingly getting wet and dirty, three students enthusiastically replied, "Why not?" Below, a student wades through the lake that formed outside of the Social Science Building on Sept. 21. The Social Science Building, shown at right, flooded on the first floor.

Students shown above invent a new intramural sport, innertubing, on Campus Loop Road during the Below, cars line up on Kennesaw State University Road to leave campus at about 1:30 p.m. on Se



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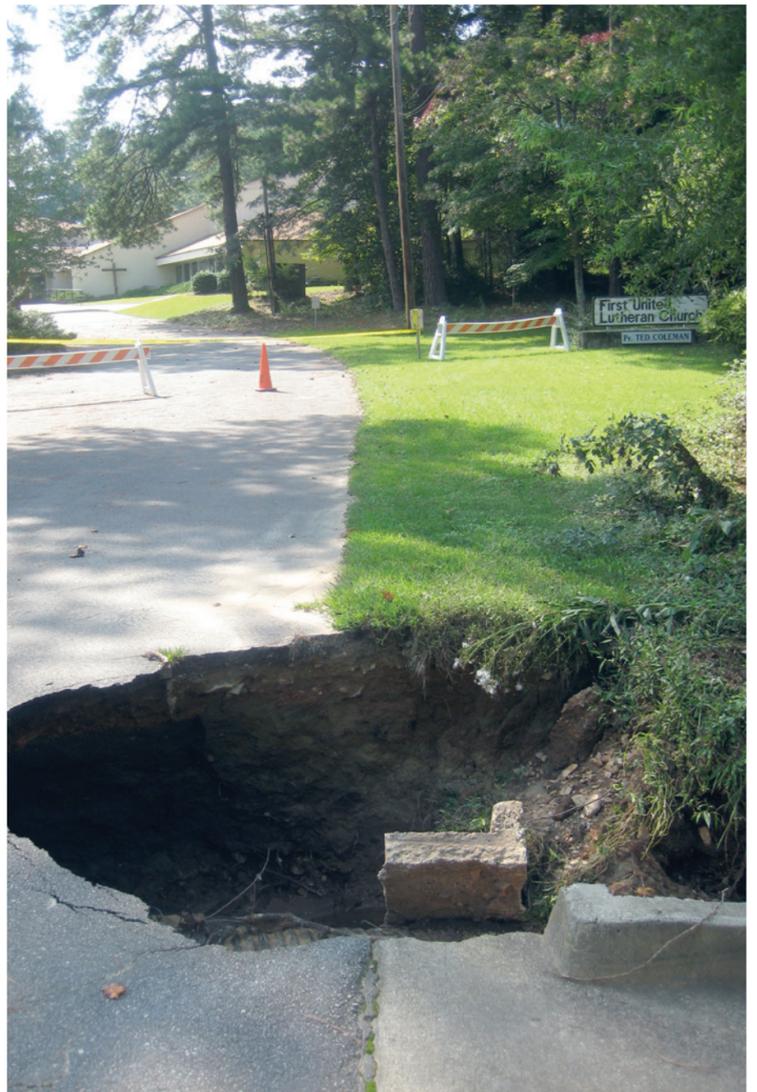
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DROP OR CAMPUS LAKE?



Paul Daly | The Sentinel

The flooding on Monday, Sept. 21. Students were also spotted in a small boat on Campus Loop. Sept. 21 upon the announcement that classes were canceled and campus was closed.



Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel

A road leading to the Methodist Church off of Campus Loop Road was eroded, resulting in the giant hole above.

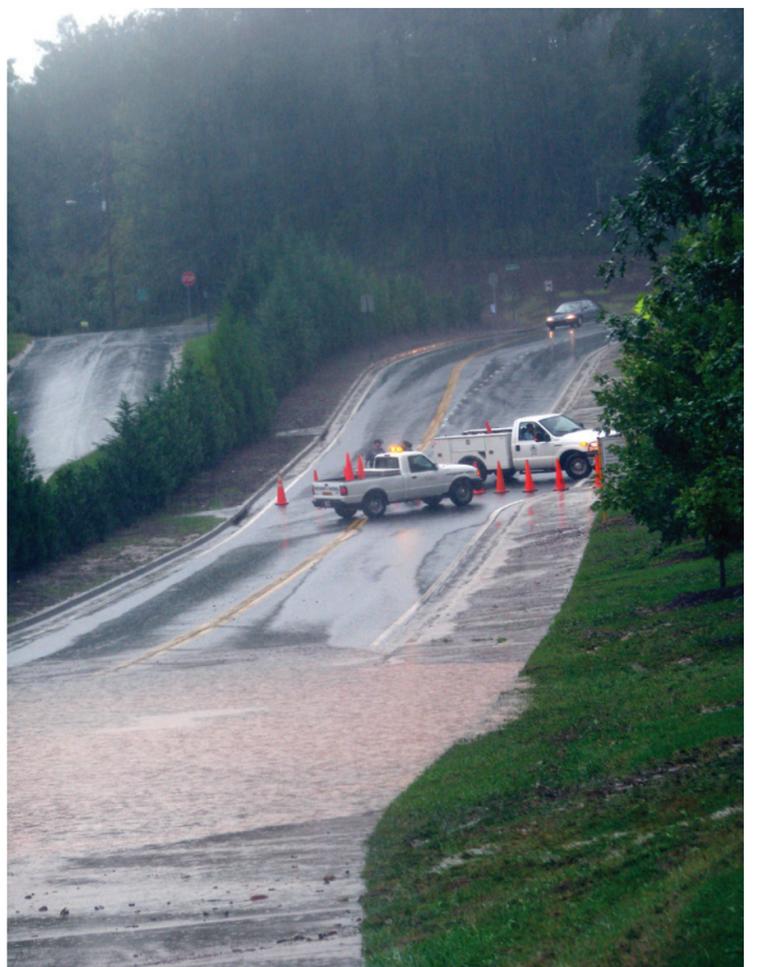


Special to The Sentinel

Above, water seeps into the game room in the Student Center. Below left, cars line up to leave the Central Parking Deck after students learned that campus was closed and all classes were cancelled. Below, security vehicles block off Campus Loop Road, which bore the brunt of the flooding on campus.



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